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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/926,803	12/20/2001	Kanetaka Sekiguchi	011701	8645	
38834	7590 09/29/2004		EXAMINER		
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP			DUONG, THOI V		
SUITE 700	IECTICUT AVENUE, N	W	ART UNIT	ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER	
WASHING	SHINGTON, DC 20036		2871		
			DATE MAILED: 09/29/2004	DATE MAILED: 09/29/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Supplementary Notice of Allowability	Application No.	5,803 SEKIGUCHI ET AL.	
Nation of Allowskilling	09/926,803		
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	•
	Thoi V Duong	2871	
The MAILING DATE of this communication ap All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL- NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.3	IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in 85) or other appropriate commer RIGHTS. This application is 8	n this application. If not in unication will be mailed in	cluded due course. THIS
1. \boxtimes This communication is responsive to <u>the RCE filed Mark</u>	<u>ch 05, 2004</u> .		
2. A The allowed claim(s) is/are 1.3.5.7.9.11.13.15.17.19.21	,23,25,31,33,35,37 and 38.		
3. \boxtimes The drawings filed on <u>20 December 2001</u> are accepted	by the Examiner.		
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents h 2. Certified copies of the priority documents h 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DAT noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDO THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be su INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gets the priority documents h 2. Substitute of the priority documents h 3. Substitute of the priority documents h 4. Sub	ave been received. ave been received in Application documents have been received TE" of this communication to file NMENT of this application. bmitted. Note the attached EXc gives reason(s) why the oath of	on No d in this national stage apple a reply complying with the AMINER'S AMENDMENT	e requirements
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") r		v / PTO 049) attached	
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsp1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date	-	w (PTO-946) attached	
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examin Paper No./Mail Date		r in the Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CF each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such			ot the back) of
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the de attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			ed. Note the
Attachment(s) 1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-94	8) 6. Interview S	formal Patent Application ummary (PTO-413), /Mail Date	(PTO-152)

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Paper No./Mail Date _

of Biological Material

3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),

4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit

7.

Examiner's Amendment/Comment

9. Other ____.

8.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Application/Control Number: 09/926,803

Art Unit: 2871

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on March 05, 2004 has been entered.

Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33 and 35 were amended, claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26-30, 32, 34 and 36 were cancelled, and new claims 37 and 38 were added. Currently, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 35, 37 and 38 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 31, 33, 35, 37 and 38 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record fairly suggests or shows all of the limitations as claimed. Specifically,

Re claim 1, none of the prior art of record discloses, in combination with other limitations as claimed, a pattern electrode isolated formed within a surrounding electrode with a small gap therebetween, wherein said small gap is made small in width so that scattering at said small gap is inconspicuous when most of display region becomes transparent by applying voltage between said signal electrode and said counter electrode.

The most relevant references, USPN 4,299,462 of Suzuki et al. and USPN 6,002,887 of Chiba et al., fail to disclose or suggest a gap formed between the pattern electrode and the

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surrounding electrode, which is made small so that scattering at said gap is inconspicuous when most of display region becomes transparent by applying voltage between signal electrode and counter electrode. The Suzuki et al.'s reference only discloses a viewfinder having a pattern electrode 25T formed within a surrounding electrode 11T as shown in Fig. 9(c). Meanwhile, the reference of Chiba et al. only discloses a viewfinder having transparent display region when voltage is applied to electrodes 2a, 2b as shown in Fig. 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2292. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached at (571) 272-2293.

Thoi Duong

09/07/2004

KENNETH PARKER PRIMARY EXAMINER